

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard Helms, DSP

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FROM: Stanley J. Grogan, Assistant to the Director

1. Interest in the Penkovsky case seems to have increased in the last 24 hours.

2. John Steele, of TIME, said LIFE would like to do an article with all the pictures they could get but particularly they would like to be briefed on what important intelligence Penkovsky furnished to the West; how did it happen that he was captured? I told Steele no one in Government would answer questions as to what information the West received and that we in CIA have not briefed the Press on the Penkovsky case. I would [redacted] reporting details of the charges and of the trial.

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3. Ben Bradlee, Washington Bureau Chief of NEWSWEEK, telephoned me at home last night. He said NEWSWEEK has been told that the reports of Penkovsky's passing Soviet secrets to the West makes even the U-2 a minor achievement; that this is the greatest espionage success of all times. He would like to be briefed on details of Penkovsky's activities on behalf of the West with a few examples of what Penkovsky had furnished [redacted] I told Bradlee we have not briefed the Press and have nothing to add to what has already been published, but I could furnish him 20 pages on Penkovsky's trial from the unclassified [redacted] He said he believed they have copies in their office, so he wouldn't need an additional set.

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4. Jim Warner, of the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, who has been on top of the story, said their science editor was told by an American that Penkovsky passed to Western intelligence a paper which indicates the Russians have given up the idea of trying to send a man to the Moon. I told Warner we could not and no one else could discuss what intelligence was received by the West from Penkovsky. He was satisfied.

SIGNED

Stanley J. Grogan
Assistant to the Director

cc: DCI
D/DCI
Executive Director
Dir/Security
DSI